

Annex E  
April 15, 1958

*revised Apr 22-58*

Restrictions on Public Access to  
OSS Records in the Custody of the National Archives

A. Records Transferred by SSU (CIG or CIA)

No restrictions were imposed at the time of transfer, either on the five OSS motion pictures (transferred by SSU in 1946) or on the records of the OSS Pictorial Records Section (transferred by CIA in 1948); see "job" folders relating to these two accessions, on file in the National Archives. Nor did the "restriction" policy on OSS records, published by the National Archives in 1948, specifically restrict these two files. The five motion pictures are, in fact, unclassified. In practice, however, all inquiries on these records are referred to CIA for decision.

The property records of OSS field installations (transferred by CIG in 1947) were to be "restricted to use by CIG personnel," so Colonel 25X1A [REDACTED] SSU/CIG, wrote to the National Archives on April 10, 1947; see his letter, in "job" folder on this accession, on file in the National Archives. The restriction policy statement, as published by the National Archives in March 1948, reads slightly differently: "Use of these records is restricted to agencies of the Government and to persons authorized to use them by the Central Intelligence Agency." In practice, however, any inquiries about these records would be referred directly and solely to CIA for decision, so it is understood by the CIA Records Management Staff. Up to the present time, there have been no public inquiries about this file at the National Archives.